

Serial No. 10/084,381
Amendment dated May 17, 2004
In Reply to Office Action dated January 15, 2004

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-6 (cancelled).

Claim 7(new). A method of producing an embossing roller having an embossing surface made of silicone rubber for continuously embossing the surface of a thermoplastic film, the embossing surface having a negative form of a to-be-embossed surface structure:

a) first an auxiliary roller is produced, which is comprised of a layer of a material at least in the region of its circumferential surface;

b) the circumferential surface being smooth;

c) a laser beam being directed at the circumferential surface;

d) the laser beam moving relative to the circumferential surface, and being controlled in accordance with a respective surface structure site of a real or imaginary pattern - present as data - such that the pattern surface

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structure is produced as a positive structure in the circumferential surface of the auxiliary roller;

e) the embossing copy being removed from the circumferential surface of the auxiliary roller, being turned inside out, and with the negative-structured embossing surface facing outwardly and being adhered to a circumferential surface of an embossing roller; and

f) the material in the region of the circumferential surface of the auxiliary roller being nitrilbutadiene rubber (NBR).

Claim 8(new). Method according to claim 7, wherein:

a) the embossing surface having a negative form of a to-be-embossed surface structure includes a grain.